

Teaching Fellows' Day 2014

This spring's Teaching Fellows' Day will attempt to complement the recent exhibition at the National Gallery of Art, "Heaven and Earth: Art of Byzantium from Greek Collections". Rather than doing a Day conference on Byzantine Greece per se, we will focus on political, religious, and intellectual centers of Byzantine Culture—including Byzantine Greece as one of these—outside of the imperial center of Constantinople. This will further complement the courses we are offering at Georgetown and George Washington. At Georgetown, Dr. Scott Johnson is teaching a course entitled "Procopius and Justinian," which considers the historiographical basis for understanding Justinian's imperial activities, including the embellishment of imperial capitals throughout the Mediterranean. At George Washington, Dr. Jonathan Shea is teaching "Polis, Civitas, and Madina: Cities in the Medieval Mediterranean," a course focused on urban developments and urban society in the Byzantine and Islamic world.

History and Perspective

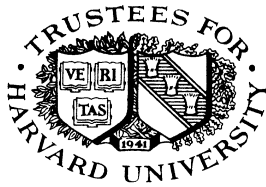
In the spring semesters of 2011, 2012, and 2013, the Teaching Fellows in Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks have held day-conferences attended by students from Georgetown University, George Washington University, and the Catholic University of America. The first Teaching Fellows' Day in 2011 focused on the image and concept of the Cross, in conjunction with the "Cross References" exhibition in the Dumbarton Oaks Museum. The second Day in 2012 considered early Byzantium as an age of transition, as opposed to the traditional "Dark Ages" label, while coinciding with the Metropolitan Museum's exhibit on "Byzantium and Islam: Age of Transition." The Day in 2013 was centered on two of the unique collections at Dumbarton Oaks, the Byzantine lead seal and coin collections, each of which are largest in the world for their respective materials. The goal in 2013 was to explain Byzantine coins and seals as objects—what they are and how they were made—and to demonstrate how they contribute to our understanding of Byzantine civilization through the study of art history, prosopography, archaeology, and literature. In each of these three events, we have enjoyed a full house of around 40 students in the Founders' Room; had lunch together, during which students mingle and were able to learn from one another; and explored the museum and gardens. The feedback received from the students and from our respective departments has been resoundingly positive. These Days have thus been overwhelmingly successful as academic outreach in the DC area.

Program

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| 9:30am | Arrival and Coffee in the Study |
| 9:45 | Welcome by Scott Johnson, Georgetown University and Dumbarton Oaks |
| 10:00 | "Jerusalem: Christian Capital and Center of Byzantine Faith"
Scott Johnson |
| 10:30 | Student Discussion |
| 11:00 | "Ochrid: The Middle Byzantine Balkans and Imperial Communication"
Margaret Mullett, Director of Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks |
| 11:30 | Student Discussion |
| Noon | Lunch in the Refectory |
| 12:30 | Tripartite Tour of Dumbarton Oaks: 30-Minute Overviews of the Museum, Coins and Seals Room, and Gardens |
| 2:00 | Group Photograph of Students and Speakers; Coffee in the Study |
| 2:30 | "The Epirote: Arta, Ioannina, and Byzantine Greece as Periphery"
Jonathan Shea, George Washington University and Dumbarton Oaks |
| 3:00 | Student Discussion |
| 3:30 | "Nicaea: A Byzantine Capital in Exile."
Dimitre Angelov, Visiting Professor of History, Harvard |
| 4:00 | Student Discussion |
| 4:30 | Panel Discussion with all speakers and students |
| 5:00 | Departure |

CENTER AND PERIPHERY: BYZANTINE CAPITALS OUTSIDE BYZANTIUM

Teaching Fellows' Day
29 MARCH 2014



DUMBARTON OAKS
RESEARCH LIBRARY AND COLLECTION

Byzantine Studies

